



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ Wednesday 20th December  
End Term 4
- ◆ Wednesday 31st January  
All Students Start Term 1 -  
2024
- ◆ Monday 5th February to  
Wednesday 7th February  
Year 7 ADANAC Camp 1
- ◆ Wednesday 7th February to  
Friday 9th February  
Year 7 ADANAC Camp 2
- ◆ Friday 17th February  
Whole School Photo Day
- ◆ Monday 19th February  
Swimming Carnival  
(Participants Only)
- ◆ Monday 19th February to  
Friday 23th February  
Year 8 Canberra Camp

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# Principal's Update



### School Captains 2024

I am very proud to announce the school captains for 2024.

- Elsa Hawes – Academic Captain
- Jake Sweerts – Sports Captain
- Natalie Hermiz – Civics & Citizenship Captain
- Shariff Rizvi Deen – Arts Captain
- Kayla Drago – Vocational Major Captain

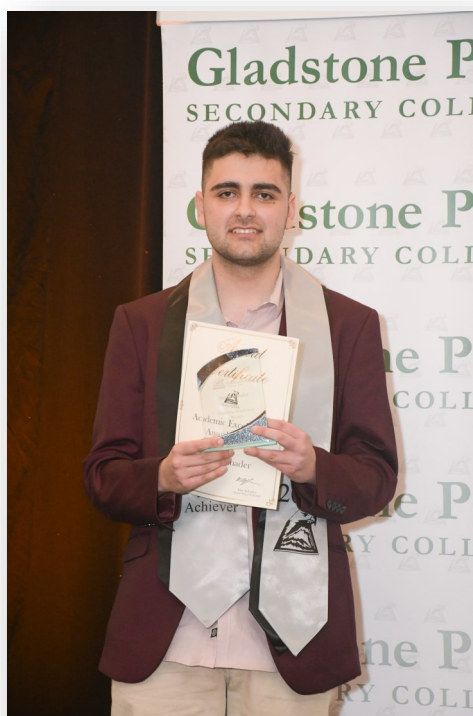
I look forward to regular meetings with the captains and hearing their ideas for improvements at our school.

### VCE High achievers

Well done to all our VCE students who received ATAR last Monday.

On Wednesday, we celebrated some outstanding VCE results with 13 students and their parents. The 13 students listed below all attained an ATAR score higher than 90. Congratulations to each of these students for their hard work, perseverance, and dedication. We are proud of their efforts and wish them all the best in their future studies.

Congratulations to: Hanna Alnader (Dux 99.6), Isabella Chaperon, Julia Chaperon, Sophie Conlan, Han Diep, Marjorie Falefata, Daniel Hiron, Nicole Iliadis, Daniel Loche, Chelsea Mc Dermott, Stephanie Osagiede, Gabriela Ponce Moya, Petar Stojkovski.



DUX 2023 - Hanna Alnader

# Principal's Update Cont..

## **Staff Retirements**

This year we sadly farewell a number of staff who have spent many years at the school and are retiring from teaching. Ian Blume, Glen Johnson, Ivan Viselka, Chris Evangelou, and Nola Evangelou. I thank them for the enormous difference they have made to so many students over their years.

Ian has worked at Gladstone Park since 1993 and started his teaching career in 1973. Glen has taught at Gladstone Park since 1989, starting his teaching career in 1983. Ivan has taught at Gladstone Park since 2011 and started teaching in 2010. These three are the total of our wood and materials technology staff and are literally irreplaceable. The state-wide shortage of materials and systems teachers which has affected so many schools, has finally affected us. We are very sad to see Ian, Glen and Ivan go - have done so much for the students and the school. Ian has been a key teacher of skills for our junior and middle school students. Glen has taught senior classes including systems engineering for many years as well as making extra-curricular contributions through running club, surf camp and set construction for the school musical production. Ivan has led the faculty for many years maintaining curriculum, equipment and materials with great efficiency, as well as attending school camps. They will all be sorely missed.

Chris Evangelou has taught Mathematics at Gladstone Park since 2006, starting teaching in 1985, and Nola has taught English since 2003, starting teaching in 1986. Chris has taught Maths at all levels in the school, and Nola started up our very highly regarded SEAL program. They have both guided and mentored a huge number of our high achieving students – seeing them into fulfilling careers.

Also leaving the teaching profession is Kerri Neven from the art faculty, who is taking on a new career path. Kerri has made many contributions, shown great passion for design and dedication and care to her students since she started here in 2005, having started teaching in 1998.

## **End of 2023, start of 2024**

As this is the last newsletter for the year, I wish everyone a safe, happy and relaxing summer break – enjoying the company of friends and family.

Well done to everyone and thank you for your positive contribution to our school community.

Here are some important dates for 2024 to help with your planning.

## **Starting Dates for 2024**

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January - Teachers & ES staff commence.

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January – Curriculum Day.

**Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January – Students Commence.**

## **Full or partial Student Free Days for 2024:**

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January – Curriculum Day – no students

Tuesday 18 June – Report Writing Day & GAT – only students doing a Year 12 subject attend.

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> August – Curriculum Day – no students

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> August – Teachers' Professional Practice Day – no students

Monday 4 November – Curriculum Day - no students

# RAMS Program - 2023

The RAMS school-based program has successfully concluded, focusing on important aspects of resilience. The incorporation of diverse themes, ranging from empathy with canine comprehension, self-esteem and flexible thinking to martial arts therapy, has demonstrated a commitment to addressing various facets of resilience.

The day was celebrated on Tuesday, November 21st, with a BBQ and a day filled with fun activities, recognizing the achievements of the students, and fostering a sense of connectedness amongst them.

Congratulations to everyone involved in the RAMS resilience program for their dedication and efforts. It's clear from the student feedback that the program has made a meaningful and positive contribution to the student's personal development and well-being.



# Year 7 Bocce Tournament

Il torneo di bocce – Year 7

This year we ran our first bocce tournament for year 7 Italian students. The students learnt the rules and history of this much loved Italian game and played within their classes. The class winners then competed in the year level championships. Students played in a round robin until there was an overall winner for the year level. We had some very talented, enthusiastic and competitive students play throughout the tournament! 7K students Nethuki Prematilaka and Angelina Santhosh were our referees for the afternoon they ran the finals with professionalism and should be commended on their efforts and enthusiasm. Grazie Nethuki e Angelina! Congratulations to everyone involved!

Our year 7 2023 bocce finalists were;

Class	Competitors
7A	Michael, Carolin and Willow
7B	Onni, Bilal and Emir
7C	Jazmine, Eleni, Evana and Reese
7D	Mitchell, Kai and Tyler
7E	Ruby, Zoe, Reem and Manuel
7F	Cade, Christian, Hayden and Kristian
7G	Allegra, Layla and Heidi
7H	Hamody, Archer, Phillip and Veer
7J	Eden, Lily and Jasper
7K	Isabella, Harshitha and Ashlyn



AND..... Our year 7 2023 bocce champions are from 7A – Auguri a Michael Sayed, Carolin Dallal and Willow Lysaught! These students were great sportspeople and played brilliantly! Bravissimi!



# Year 7 Bocce Tournament



# Year 9 Surf Camp 2023

(Wednesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> November)

Twenty-nine excited students and four teachers made their way to Anglesea on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November. The first stop was the Great Ocean Road Chocolatery, where many enjoyed some ice cream or purchased a little treat to take away, before setting off to the Burnside camp site to unload and get ready for the first surf lesson at Torquay.

The surfers headed down to the Torquay back beach where the weather was a beautiful sunny 22C. However, the waves were choppy and dumping, so it was a challenging first attempt at surfing for everyone. Even our veteran teacher surfers were having trouble catching a wave and staying on their boards. Things settled a little in the second half of the session and most students started timing the waves and catching them in, with lots of entertaining stacks along the way.

After the lesson we headed back to camp for a shower, dinner and a little down time. We then drove to Aireys Inlet, for a walk up to the lighthouse and the various lookouts along the spectacular cliffs. After watching the sun set over the coastline we returned to camp for some supper and bed.

After a good night sleep (for some) and a little sleep in, we headed to Cosy Corner in Torquay for Surf Kayaking lessons. While the first group had their lesson the others went to the Surf Outlets in Torquay in search of some clothing bargains. Then the groups swapped over at 11.00am. The surf was great for catching a ride in the Kayaks, although with the tide coming in it was a tough work on the upper body. A few of us got a little ambitious on some bigger waves resulting in a few nose dives and flipped kayaks, which amused those with a more sensible nature who watched on.

After a late lunch we then headed to Lorne and Erskine Falls. Unbeknown to us the walk to the base of the falls was closed due rain damage to the path in the recent days, so we had to admire the waterfall from the upper viewing deck. Luckily it was a glorious sunny afternoon so we headed back to Lorne for a look around town and a walk along the beach. We returned to camp for dinner and then drove to Point Roadnight in Anglesea for a walk over the sand dunes and to view the spectacular rock formations, before returning to camp to watch 'Surf Up'.

It was an early start Friday morning. With everyone up, packed and down to Anglesea Surf beach for our final surf lesson at 8.00am. The surf conditions were brilliant and most students stood up on their boards this time around, catching waves all the way into shore. After a highly successful and fun morning we ended the camp with fish and chips by the river at a park in Torquay.

I would like to thank all the students for their perseverance, enthusiasm and positivity with all the activities. The camp will run again in November next year, and I encourage all 2024 year 9 students to consider taking up the opportunity to attend. Have a chat to those who have been previously, as many students express to us that Surf Camp is one of their favourite secondary school experiences. Students who attended formed new friendships, strengthened old ones and made memories that will last a lifetime.

I would like to thank the staff who attended the camp for their collaboration, enthusiasm and involvement. Camps are an important aspect of the school's curriculum and they cannot happen without teachers taking time away from their personal lives to attend. Thank you to Con Zanetidis and Roger Centofanti. And finally, a massive extra thank you to Glen Johnson who has been involved with running the camp for the past 15 years. Sadly, he surfed his last Gladstone Park surf camp with us this year. Mr Johnson your experience and skills on the board will be sorely missed!!

Vanessa McLennan  
Middle School Student Agency and Events Coordinator

# Year 9 Surf Camp 2023



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# Year 12 Graduation 2023

On Monday the 20<sup>th</sup> of November the year 12's celebrated their graduation in the style of a valedictory dinner. The evening was an opportunity for families, students and staff to gather at the prestigious event space 'Manor on High', to enjoy Awards, speeches and of-course dancing. We would like to thank the School Council President Sharron Matuato for contributing to the warmth of the night and delivering a speech on behalf of the parents.

The school captains gave some heart-warming speeches. A big congratulations to our *Academic Excellence Award* and *Vocational Major Award recipients* Hanna Alnader and Amy Warden. Memories were created and the dance floor was full!

We congratulate for the final time, the class of 2023 and wish them well on their journey ahead.

Mrs Carvalho

Senior School Student Agency and Events Coordinator.

<i>Accounting</i>	Petar Stojkovski
<i>Art Creative Practice</i>	Jamie Royals
<i>Business Management</i>	Marjorie Falefata
<i>Chemistry</i>	Petar Stojkovski
<i>Economics</i>	Kaan Yildrim
<i>English</i>	Daniel Hiron
<i>English additional language</i>	Hanna Alnader
<i>Food Studies</i>	Georgi Prodromos
<i>Future Innovators</i>	Hanna Alnader
<i>General Mathematics</i>	Petar Stokovski
<i>Governor Landy (Humanities) History</i>	Sophie Conlan
<i>Health &amp; Human Development</i>	Daniel Loche
<i>Italian</i>	Isabella Chaperon
<i>Leanne Myslinski (Science) Biology</i>	Han Diep
<i>Legal Studies</i>	Hanna Alnader
<i>Literature</i>	Sophie Conlan
<i>Long Tan Youth Award</i>	Tomy Andretta
<i>Making &amp; Exhibiting -Photography</i>	Sienna Rechichi
<i>Marty Stafrace Community Award</i>	Abbie Clewer
<i>Mathematical Methods</i>	Hanna Alnader
<i>Media</i>	Alexander Venakis
<i>Music Performance</i>	Claudia Schembri
<i>Physical Education</i>	Julia Chaperon
<i>Physics</i>	Gabriela Ponce Moya
<i>Psychology</i>	Daniel Hiron
<i>Robert Lamb Award</i>	Marjorie Falefata
<i>Software Development</i>	Katie Lu
<i>Specialist Mathematics</i>	Andrei Delos Reyes
<i>Systems. &amp; Engineering</i>	Tomy Andretta
<i>VETis Business</i>	Etanya Aho
<i>VETis Sport &amp; Rec</i>	Shaquille Wakit
<i>Visual Communication &amp; Design</i>	Mari Maskin

# Year 12 Graduation 2023

## Captains Farewell - Marjorie Falefata

In 2018, we began our high school journey in the era of Fortnite dances and the rise of TikTok. During our time in high school, we've surpassed a series of adversity including a pandemic, and Mr Yip's career counselling sessions and reminders to apply for VTAC.

And now, not only do we sign out with an ever-growing TikTok addiction but also as the graduating class of 2023!

13 years of wearing a uniform, lining up behind classroom doors, and having our breaks dictated by the bell.

13 years. We've spent more than half of our childhood receiving an education and it's finally over, at least for now.

This year as captains, we've been privileged to introduce, plan and host many new events and initiatives within the school.

Initiating and facilitating the school's first cultural parade day and hosting the cultural concerts was an absolute blast. Seeing you all come together to embrace another's cultural differences and being proud of your own unique identity, was beautiful to witness and definitely the main objective. Thank you, Year 12s for your cooperation and support- whether you sung like Taps, Lorien and Eva, danced or simply just attended.

You've played a pivotal role in helping make change around the school as an example to younger year levels.

I'd like to thank all staff members who have supported me in my role as captain and SRC President, particularly our SRC Coordinator Mr. Suratman and Leadership coordinator Mr. Taylor as well as the teachers who have assisted them in the process. Working with you all has been a great privilege. Thank you all for listening to and supporting our vision in the SRC to promote environmental sustainability via the implementation of the They're Calling On You , Battery Recycling program and aboriginal representation throughout the school with the funding of the new mural portraying the stories of our First Nations students and teachers. I know us VCE students really appreciated the new digital clocks during our exams.

From early on my parents taught me to never shy away from opportunities, to remember my religious and cultural values as a young Samoan daughter, and have raised my siblings and I to be the leaders we are today.

I'd like to thank our principals and senior school staff for selecting and entrusting Brivini, Ky and I with our role as captains. I've loved every moment collaborating with them to plan events for you all and being the face of our year level and school.

Some advice from me... Never shy away from an opportunity to be great. Stay true to yourself. Know that it's okay to take a break. There's no rush. Be brave in life.

2023 school captains signing out !!!



# Year 12 Graduation 2023

## Captains Farewell - Ky Shennan

As I sat down over the past few weeks attempting to reflect on the journey, I really struggled to put my feelings and thoughts into words.

It for sure was a wild rollercoaster of emotions, from the daunting experience of starting at Gladstone Park as the smallest year 7 student to being at the other end with a wealth of experience, memories, and friendships that I will certainly cherish forever.

From highlights such as school camps, athletics carnivals and being involved in a variety of interschool sport teams, I truly believe our high school experience has been second to none. With the addition of this year's events including year 12 movie/trivia night, karaoke events, the semester break bash and the very first pyjama day. I don't believe we could of asked for anything more.

One important thing I will take away from my time here at Gladstone Park are the friendships. Getting out of bed and coming to school became so much easier with a year level who knew when it was time to laugh, time to cry, time to learn, and time to have some fun.

One thing I've learnt throughout my schooling life, but especially over past 12 months is that life certainly has a way of throwing you curveballs when you least expect them, and this year was no exception.

Thank you to **ALL** of the teachers that have inspired us along the way, who went above and beyond every single day to ensure we all were comfortable with our studies.

Lastly, it's been a pleasure being Sports Captain this year.

Live life to the fullest, stay safe and good luck with whatever your future holds.



# High Achievers 2023



Hanna Alnader (Dux) - 99.6

Petar Stojkovski - 97.25

Daniel Hiron - 95.65

Gabriela Ponce Moya - 94.8

Isabella Chaperon - 92.05

Julia Chaperon - 91.9

Han Diep - 91.75

Sophie Conlon - 91.7

Marjorie Falefata - 91.65

Daniel Loche - 91.45

Nicole Iliadis - 90.4

Stephanie Osagiede - 90.1

Chelsea McDermott - 90



# High Achievers Breakfast - 2023



## 2023 / 2024 Important Dates

Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th December	Junior School Counselling
Wednesday 20th December	End Term 4
Tuesday 30th January	Curriculum Day - No Students at School
Wednesday 31st January	All Students Start Term 1 2024
Friday 2nd February	Musical Information and Audition sign-up
Monday 5th February to Wednesday 7th February	Year 7 ADANAC Camp 1
Wednesday 7th February to Friday 9th February	Year 7 ADANAC Camp 2
Thursday 8th February	Senior School BBQ 5:30pm
Monday 12th February	Musical Cast Auditions
Tuesday 13th February	Musical Dance Auditions
Wednesday 14th February	Musical Auditions Call Backs
Thursday 15th February	Year 7 BBQ
Friday 17th February	Whole School Photo Day
Monday 19th February	Swimming Carnival Participants Only
Monday 19th February to Friday 23rd February	Year 8 Canberra Camp
Friday 23rd February	Year 7 Mini Olympics
Monday 26th February	Photo catch-up day.
Thursday 29th February	House Athletics - Whole School

## Office Hours

Monday - Friday

8:00am to 4:00pm

Last day of each Term the office will close at 2:30pm

**The office is CLOSED during all school holiday periods**

All upcoming dates can also be found on our Website:

[www.gladstoneparksc.vic.edu.au](http://www.gladstoneparksc.vic.edu.au)

### **HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR DETAILS ?**

Please immediately notify the College of any changes to your address or contact details.

## **ATTENTION YEAR 11 & YEAR 12 PARENTS**

Parents are reminded that where a Year 11 or Year 12 student is absent from school due to a family holiday, this will be considered an unapproved absence.

VCE, including VM, has attendance requirements which must be met in order for a student to pass.

### **STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE**

Parents are reminded that the school does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents/guardians are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs.

Reasonably low cost accident insurance policies are available from commercial insurers should you require one.